

Members

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Keith Blocker, City Council Liaison Alternate
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heather Conklin
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Elizabeth Pew
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

Staff

Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator
Chevi Chung, Community Programs Specialist
Rebecca Solverson, Public Art Specialist
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

Summary Minutes

Tacoma Arts Commission

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality
Tacoma Venues and Events Department



Date: April 12, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Virtual

These minutes accompany the recorded meeting of the Tacoma Arts Commission, which is available at www.cityoftacoma.org/tacagendaminutes.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Rosie Ayala, Chair
Benjamin Maestas III, Vice Chair
John Hines, City Council Liaison
Olivia Allison
Jasmine Brown
Heide Fernandez-Llamazares
Anna Holcomb
Michael Kula
Jeanette Sanchez
Jamika Scott
James Stowe
MaryMikel Stump
Alejandra Villeda
Sarah Woodson

City Staff Present:

Amy McBride
Chevi Chung
Naomi Strom-Avila
Rebecca Solverson
Lisa Jaret
Tammi Bryant

Commission Members Excused Absence:

Heather Conklin

Commission Members Unexcused Absence:

Elizabeth Pew

1. Call to Order

5:04 pm (00:00)

Chair Ayala called the meeting to order. Chair Ayala recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

ʔuk'wədiitəb ʔuhig'ətəb čəʔ tɬ'əl tiit ʔa čəʔ ʔal tə swatɬ'ix'w'ɬ'əd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš dx'əsətəʔlils g'əl ʔutɬ'əlšucidəbs həlg'əʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

2. Consent Agenda (00:46)

There was one excused absence: Commissioner Conklin.

Vice Chair Maestas asked for a motion to approve the April agenda as well as the minutes from the March 8 meeting.

There was a motion: “I move that we approve the meeting agenda and the meeting minutes.”

Motion: Commissioner Sanchez

Seconded: Commissioner Holcomb

Motion: Carried

3. Chair’s Report/Housekeeping (02:17)

Chair Ayala led a community check-in with the Commissioners.

4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (15:49)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

5. Action Items

a. Tacoma Arts Month Subcommittee (16:51)

Staff discussed Tacoma Arts Month 2021 including website redesign, the twentieth anniversary, and requested the support of a Tacoma Arts Month subcommittee. Chair Ayala and Commissioners Stump, Allison, Sanchez, Fernandez-Llamazares, and Woodson volunteered for the subcommittee.

There was a motion: “I move that we set up a Tacoma Arts subcommittee to support the design of this year’s Tacoma Arts Month.”

Motion: Chair Ayala

Second: Commissioner Stump

Motion: Carried

b. Updating Municipal Art Collection Deaccession, Accession, and Gift Policies (21:58)

Staff presented the Municipal Art Collection policies on Deaccession, Accession and Gifting (Resolution 34963), asking that the Commission approve staff to start the process of reviewing the policies and making them current with best practices. Commissioner Sanchez suggested that the DEI subcommittee be involved in reviewing the policies.

There was a motion: “I’ll propose a motion to allow the Arts Office to review and update our policies under [Resolution] 34963.”

Motion: Chair Ayala

Second: Vice Chair Maestas

Motion: Carried

6. Presentations

a. Council Coffee Role Playing and Talking Points (28:18)

Staff and Commissioners discussed Council Coffee meetings, talking points, the 2020 Annual Report,

state of the arts, and highlights to cover with City Councilmembers during the Spring ‘Council Coffee’ meetings.

Commissioners Holcomb and Woodson provided a live demonstration of a ‘Council Coffee’ meeting.

7. Discussion/Updates

a. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Subcommittee

(01:10:10)

Commissioner Fernandez-Llamazares and Vice Chair Maestas discussed reading the Cultural New Deal, the meaning of accountability, and a Commission retreat session focused on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

b. Retreat Design Subcommittee

(01:14:09)

Staff gave an update about the March 24 subcommittee meeting, which focused on plans for the Commission retreat, session 1. The session will include an overview of the Arts Commission’s work and team building exercises and will be held on Saturday, May 22 at 10am-12pm in Zoom. Staff is working to secure a date for a second retreat session with a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion focus

8. Staff Check-In

(01:21:48)

a. Staff Projects Overview and Updates

Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Artists Initiative Program; artists have been notified about the funding decisions. Commissioners shared about attending the TAIP artist cohort meeting. Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Poet Laureate program, specifically ‘Pass the Torch’ on April 21 and the KING 5 Evening show interview with Lydia K. Valentine. Staff gave an update about the Professional Development program and upcoming sessions with Rainbow Center. Staff gave an update about the website redesign for Tacoma Arts Month and approaches for a safe delivery of the AMOCAT Arts Awards and the Tacoma Studio Tour.

b. Public Art Updates

(1:31:51)

Staff gave an update on the Dickman Mill and East 64th Street projects, as well as The Jewels dedication video. Staff shared about the traffic box wraps designed by the Duenas brothers of the Puyallup Tribe. Staff reminded the Commission about the recycling container wraps designed by Mark Monlux, Stan Shaw, Jasmine Brown, Paige Pettibon, and Chandler O’Leary. Commissioners Stowe and Allison shared about the joy of recycling and seeing the design work from local artists. Staff shared about the upcoming launch and release of the Lushootseed yard sign project with the Puyallup Tribal Language Program. Staff gave an update about the Tacoma Totem Pole Public Hearing on May 12.

c. Tacoma Creates

(01:44:10)

Staff gave a brief presentation about the relationship between the Arts program and Tacoma Creates, as well as the overall structure of the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality within the City of Tacoma.

9. Report Back

a. Advocacy Reports

(01:54:58)

There were no advocacy reports.

b. Funded Project Updates/Arts Events Attended

(01:54:58)

Chair Ayala shared about attending the Foundation for Tacoma Student event with Bree Newsome as the guest speaker who spoke about the intersection of art and justice.

c. Future Agenda Items for Consideration

(01:56:15)

Vice Chair Maestas shared about the Code Switch NPR podcast event.

10. Adjourn

7:01 (01:57:05)

MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm, venue to be determined based on health regulations. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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